



# LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## Agricultural Education Commission

*Thursday, December 14, 2017*

*9:00 am – 11:00 am*

### Meeting Summary

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#### **In Attendance:**

**Commissioners:** Lisa T. French, Debbie Cruz for Patricia Felder, Dr. Kristin Stair, Dr. Joey Blackburn, Dr. Bobby Fletcher, Sadie Phelps, Isabel Oakley, Dr. Eric Smith, Megan Gravois, Susana Schowen, Kellie Taylor-White, and Marcy Mahler.

**Guests & Staff:** Buck Vandersteen, Ken Bradford, Stephen Guccione, Emily Pineda, Lynda Danos, and Martha Moore.

**Not in Attendance:** Karen Denby, Dr. Adell Brown, Catherine Segura, Donna Bailey, and Larry Carter

#### **Meeting Notes**

##### **Welcome/Meeting Objectives/Roll Call/Approval of Minutes**

*Lisa T. French, Executive Director, Career and Technical Education, Office of Student Opportunities, LDOE*

Lisa French, commission co-chair, welcomed attendees and guests and requested that the roll be called. Megan Gravois moved and Sadie Phelps seconded the approval of the minutes as presented. Motion approved.

Ms. French reviewed the agenda and reported that due to Dr. Leslie Blanchard not being able to attend, the Louisiana Governor's School Update would be rescheduled for a later meeting.

##### **Overview of Commission Accomplishments:**

*Lisa T. French, Executive Director, Career and Technical Education, Office of Student Opportunities, LDOE*

Ms. French reviewed accomplishments of the Commission, highlighting the approval by Workforce Investment Council of the Louisiana Agritechnology Credential as a statewide Industry-Based Credential, the development and implementation of the agriculture based Career Readiness course, and the development and approval of the Agritechnology Pathway as a Jump Start Integrated Pathway.

#### **USDA Agriculture's Team Nutrition Training Grant**

*Stephen Guccione and Emily Pineda, Division of Healthy Communities, LDOE*

Mr. Guccione and Ms. Pineda shared information about the Nutrition grant emphasizing that the grant focus is on healthy eating and physical activity. Embedded in the grant is support for professional development and technical assistance. Five (5) entities have applied for the fifteen (15) multi-year grants. Information about the grant is on the [Louisiana Fit Kids](#) webpage

### **FFA Update**

*Dr. Eric Smith, State FFA Executive Director of Agriculture Education*

Dr. Smith shared video from Farm Bureau Television providing an overview of agriculture in Louisiana. Together, Louisiana State University's College of Agriculture and Louisiana FFA's data analysis indicates that there are agriculture programs in 57/68 school districts, programs span from rural to urban, and show that approximately 70% of the participants are males and 30% are females; however, that percentage gap narrows for educators.

Multiple associations support agriculture efforts including the Louisiana Forestry Association, represented by Mr. Buck Vandersteen. These associations support Louisiana FFA's Career Development Events and provide scholarships to both two-year and four-year colleges.

Goal of FFA is to expand opportunities for students in agriculture by increasing awareness about the Agritechnology Industry-Based Certification (IBC) and promoting interest in developing Forestry IBC.

### **Overview of Commission Accomplishments**

*Lisa T. French, Executive Director, Career and Technical Education, Office of Student Opportunities, LDOE*

Lisa French shared the history and listed accomplishments of commission including the development of Louisiana Agritechnology Industry-Based Certification (IBC), inclusion of this IBC in the Jump Start pathway for Agriscience and on the Workforce Investment Council Industry-Based Certification (IBC) State Focus List, revision of Agriscience guidelines, access to Career Development Funds, creation of Career Readiness course for Agriscience teachers and

### **Louisiana's Governor's School for Agricultural Science Update**

*Dr. Leslie Blanchard, Assistant Dean, LSU College of Agriculture*

Dr. Blanchard was unable to attend, but she will provide full review at next meeting.

### **2017 – 2018 Commission Focus/Priorities and Timelines**

*Lisa T. French, Executive Director, Career and Technical Education, Office of Student Opportunities, LDOE*

Each committee provided updates.

- 1) Expand awareness and support of Agritechnology IBC: Thirteen (13) agriscience teachers earned this credential this fall. Sessions to review and take the assessment will be offered at FFA meetings and LATA convention during summer 2018.

- 2) Update CTE Bulletin 106: Sadie Phelps and Marcy Mahler are leading review of Bulletin 106 and will work, this summer, with Task Force to cross-reference current bulletin with national standards and Agriscience I, II, and III guidelines. Next steps include a conference call to define additional support and establish plan of action and timeline.
- 3) Develop new agriculture IBC: Team is investigating adding Forestry and looking at other Career Development Events for possibilities.

**Next Steps**

- Poll for date for next quarterly meeting
- Bulletin 106 meeting
- Jump Start Convention Evite to members

**Public Comment:**

None

**Adjourned**

Dr. Blackburn moved and Dr. Stair seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Motion approved.